SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" Will the Hon. Minister kindly call for details of the services of the employees in the Civil Department and examine whether the nature of their service is actually of a temporary or seasonal character? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" Yes, Sir."

Application of Indian Factories Act on factories and establishments.

* 45 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are certain kinds of establishments which are still outside the scope of the Indian Factories Act as they do not employ more than a specified number of workers;

(*b*) whether the enabling provision by which Provincial Governments can bring within the scope of the Act work-places where smaller number of workers are employed has been availed of and if so, to what extent;

(*c*) whether the Government contemplate the application of the provisions of the Factories Act to all establishments irrespective of the number of workers employed;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the definition of 'factory' as it stands excludes several industrial undertakings from the scope of the Act;

(*e*) whether the Government have suggested to the Government of India to bring within the purview of the Factories Act all industrial undertakings; and

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the working conditions in industrial undertakings noticed by the Labour Investigation Committee are traceable to the fact that some of them are outside the scope of the Factories Act?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The Provincial Government have declared—

(1) that the provisions of the whole of the Factories Act shall apply to all places wherein ten or more persons have been working and wherein the processes of (i) groundnut decorticating and rice-milling are carried on with the aid of power and (ii) match manufacture, confectionery, paper printing or binding, type casting and engineering or blacksmithy are carried on with or without the aid of power; and

(2) that the provisions of sections 2 to 4, 9 to 14, 16 to 23, 25, 26, 30 to 32, 34 to 77 and 81 shall apply to all places wherein twenty or more persons have been working and wherein the processes of tanning of skins or hides, cleaning of wool, cashewnut handling and coffee garbling are carried on without the aid of power.

" (*c*) The Government have under consideration a proposal to bring in legislation to control the conditions of labour in unregulated non-power factories.

" (*d*) 'Factory' is defined in the Factories Act as meaning

any premises whereon twenty or more persons are working and in any part of which a manufacturing process is carried on with the aid of power. All other industrial undertakings and those not declared as factories under section 5 of the Act do not come within the purview of the Factories Act.

" (e) This Government have agreed with the proposal of the Government of India to amend the Factories Act so as to bring within its purview undertakings not covered by it at present.

" (f) Yes."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If the Government of India will take their own time to bring forward an amendment of the Factories Act, may I ask whether this Government will undertake the necessary legislation? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" This Government requested the Care-taker Government to see that the matter was taken up immediately. I have also asked the present Government to take it up immediately. If they do not do it we shall take it up immediately."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that there are a large number of factories which ought to be brought under the Factories Act but have not been brought under the Act? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I take the information from the hon. Member."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" I am referring especially to the laundries in the hospital where power is used and more than 20 persons are employed."

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" Notice, Sir."

Appointment of District Panchayat Officers and Assistant Panchayat Officers.

* 46 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether rules regulating the appointment of the District Panchayat Officers and the Assistant Panchayat Officers have been framed;

(b) who is the authority competent to appoint, transfer and punish them;

(c) what the different scales of salary sanctioned are;

(d) whether the District Panchayat Officers and Assistant Panchayat Officers are eligible for appointment as Commissioners of Municipalities and Secretaries of District Boards;

(e) if the answer to (d) is in the affirmative, on whose report their inclusion in the lists is made; and

(f) whether the Government have under consideration a scheme for constituting one service both for Municipalities and District Boards to secure facilities for interchanging these officers?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" (a) Regulations in regard to the service of District Panchayat Officers have been